

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND  
(Baltimore Division)

MITSUKO MAEDA

\*

Petitioner,

\*

v.

\*

Civil No.: 1:19-cv-02396-ELH

TOMMY KWOKWING WONG

\*

Respondent.

\*

\* \* \* \* \*

JOINT SCHEDULING ORDER

The Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, done at The Hague on October 25, 1980; International Child Abduction Remedies Act, 22 U.S.C. § 9001 *et seq.*

On September 5, 2019, the Court held a Show Cause Hearing pursuant to the 1980 Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (the "Hague Convention"), the International Child Abduction Remedies Act ("ICARA"), and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The Petitioner's counsel, the Petitioner, the Respondent's counsel, and the Respondent appeared. The Court confirmed that the minor children, T.M., born in 2009, and H.M., born in 2011 (the "children"), are physically located in the jurisdiction of this Court. On the basis of the Show Cause Hearing:

**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. Evidentiary Hearing. An expedited evidentiary hearing on the Petitioner's Petition for Return of Children to Japan shall be held before this Court on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Nov., 2019, at 10 : a.m. in Courtroom 5B of the United States District Court

for the District of Maryland, located at 101 Lombard Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. The

Petitioner and the Respondent shall appear in person for the evidentiary hearing. *The hearing shall continue, if needed, on Nov. 13 and Nov. 14, 2019.*

U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND  
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2. Respondent's Responsive Pleading. The Respondent shall file his Responsive Pleading to the Petition for Return of Children to Japan, which shall include any exceptions to return he intends to assert, on or before Sept. 13, 2019.

3. Deadline for Disclosure of Experts. With the exception of any affidavits of foreign law that either party may choose to file in accordance with Article 14 of the Hague Convention and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 44.1, both parties shall provide full and complete expert disclosures as required by Rule 26(a)(2)(A)-(C) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which shall include a complete copy of any such expert's file, no later than Oct. 4, 2019. Full and complete rebuttal expert disclosures, which shall also comply with Rule 26(a)(2)(A)-(C) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and which shall include a complete copy of any such rebuttal expert's file, shall be made no later than Oct. 18, 2019.

4. Deadline for Completion of Discovery. All discovery, including written discovery, depositions, and depositions *duces tecum*, shall be completed no later than Nov. 1, 2019. Written discovery shall be limited to 5 (  ) interrogatories, 10 (  ) requests for production of documents, and 5 (  ) requests for admission. All written discovery shall be propounded by both parties no later than Sept. 20, 2019 and served electronically. The time for each party's responses to any written discovery requests shall be ten (10) calendar days after service.

5. Filing and Exchange of Witness Lists, Exhibit Lists, and Exhibits. The parties shall file their proposed Evidentiary Hearing Witness Lists and Exhibit Lists no later than Nov. 5, 2019. The parties shall electronically exchange (but not file) copies of all proposed exhibits identified on their respective proposed Exhibits Lists on the same day that the

proposed Exhibit Lists are filed. The parties shall electronically serve any stipulations or objections to the proposed exhibits within two (2) business days of the exchange.

6. Mediation. The parties and their counsel, if they agree, shall promptly schedule and participate in private mediation or mediation either with the assigned Magistrate Judge, or with a private mediator, in advance of the evidentiary hearing.

7. Provisional Remedies During Pendency of Litigation. In accordance with ICARA, 22 U.S.C. § 9004, the following provisional remedies shall be in effect with respect to the parties' children during the pendency of this litigation:

a. Both parties are prohibited from removing the children or causing the children to be removed from the State of Maryland, pending final disposition of this matter.

b. All passports and any other travel documents for the children shall be held for safe-keeping by the ~~Clerk of Court~~ <sup>Counsel for respondent</sup> until further order of this Court.

c. The Respondent shall make the children available for in-person contact with the Petitioner, daily communication with the Petitioner through Skype or other electronic video means, or telephone if electronic video means are not available, from the date of this Order until final disposition of the Petition for Return.

d. The parties, through their respective counsel, shall cooperate to ensure that the children have in-person contact with the Petitioner upon reasonable notice that the Petitioner will be present in Maryland, from the date of this Order until final disposition of the Petition for Return.

e. Respondent will tender his passport to his attorney pending the conclusion of the case. Petitioner's counsel will retain her passport during visitation.

*Allen L. Hollander*  
Allen L. Hollander, District Judge  
United States District Court  
for the District of Maryland

f. By ~~Oct. 29~~ Oct. 29, 2019, Counsel will file legal memoranda, outlining the applicable law.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:**

/s/ Kelly A. Powers

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